


EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF DEFENSE MOBILIZATION
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

March 13, 1956

MEMORANDUM TO: Ad Hoc Group on Reciprocity

Mr. J. Paul Barringer
Department of State

Mr. Russell H. Hughes
Department of Defense


Central Intelligence Agency

Mr. I. W. Conrad
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Commissioner E. M. Webster
Federal Communications Commission

FROM:

Jerry V. Matejka
Major General, USA (Ret.)
Chairman, Ad Hoc Group

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Attached you will find copies of a proposed draft reply to the Interdepartmental Committee on Internal Security, in response to their letter of February 24, 1955, and the language of a proposed amendment to Section 305 of the Communications Act of 1934.

↓ A meeting will be held in my office by the ad hoc group at 8:00 p.m., Friday, March 16th, 1956 for the purpose of considering these two documents, both of which have been prepared by the Department of State.

If you cannot attend, it will be appreciated if you will arrange for your representative to be present.

Enclosure(2):

Draft Amendment (Unclassif.)
Draft Ltr to ICIS (Secret)

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When the attachments are received
this transmittal letter becomes
unclassified

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO SECTION 305

Amend Section 305 by adding a new section "d" to read as follows:

"(d) The provisions of Sections 301 and 303 of this Act notwithstanding, the President may authorize the construction and operation in the United States, under such terms and conditions as he may prescribe, of point to point radio stations by official missions of foreign governments for the transmission of messages of such government where he determines that the authorization would be consistent with the national security of the United States and where such foreign governments have provided substantial reciprocal privileges to the United States to construct and operate radio stations within territories subject to their jurisdiction. The authorization of such stations, and the renewal, modification, suspension, revocation or other termination of such authority shall be in accordance with such procedures as may be established by the President and shall not be subject to the other provisions of this Act or of the Administrative procedure Act."

Amend Section 3 by adding a new subsection "hh" to read as follows:

"(hh) 'Point to point radio station' means a station providing radio communications service between specified fixed points."

SECRET

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Letter to Yeagley, Chairman ICIS

Pursuant to the request contained in your letter of February 24, 1955, acknowledged in ours of April 27, 1955, an ad hoc committee was appointed to study the problem of the effect of reciprocal agreements with foreign governments, regularizing the operation of diplomatic radio transmitters in Washington and in selected foreign capitals.

This committee was comprised of representatives of the Departments of State and Defense, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Central Intelligence Agency, and the Federal Communications Commission and operated under the chairmanship of the Assistant Director of CDM for Telecommunications.

Based upon thorough study of the various ramifications of the problem, the Committee has prepared and approved the attached staff paper. In substance, the paper approves action on the part of the Department of State, to submit to the Bureau of the Budget the proposed change in the Communications Act of 1934 as amended.

Those agencies of the government, having a direct interest in this matter, were represented on the ad hoc committee, and there was concurrence on the part of the ad hoc committee, that the recommendation is desirable as an overall policy of the United States. In conformance with this notification to the ICIS, the Department of State will request of the Bureau of the Budget the necessary clearance and action incident to the procurement of the necessary legislation.

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State Department, 3/13/56.

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